

Students Play the War Game.  
What the college men in camp at Platts-  
burg are doing under real army disci-  
pline. IN THE SUN TO-day,  
Page 1, Section 5.



THE WEATHER FORECAST.  
Partly cloudy to-day; showers to-mor-  
row; southerly winds.  
Highest temperature yesterday, 79; lowest, 64.  
Detailed weather, mail and marine reports on page 19.

VOL. LXXXII.—NO. 314.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## LE ROY DRESSER KILLS HIMSELF IN FRAT HOUSE

G. W. Vanderbilt's Brother-  
in-law Fires Bullet Into  
Right Temple.

### NOTE TO FRIEND TELLS OF "NERVOUS STRAIN"

Daniel Le Roy Dresser, brother-in-law of George W. Vanderbilt, and once a well known financier, shot himself in the right temple yesterday afternoon in the library of the Delta Psi fraternity house at 434 Riverside Drive. He was found dead on the library floor, a registered letter early in the day telling him that "the nervous strain" was more than he could endure.

That was the only motive assigned for his suicide. More than once in the last two decades, however, Dresser had financial and family troubles, which preyed on his mind. It was said last night, too, that late in April of this year a Japanese firm had instituted civil suits against him for \$200,000 on notes which the company alleged to hold.

But Mr. Gould, who gave out the facts about Dresser's death, refused to discuss this feature of the case and asserted that anyhow, whether true or not, it had no bearing on the shooting.

#### Planned to Meet Wife.

It was learned from Mrs. Ulricha Walther, Dresser's mother-in-law, that her daughter, Mrs. Marcia Dresser, received a telegram from her husband early yesterday afternoon telling her to meet him at the Manhattan end of the Brooklyn Bridge later in the day. The couple were then to leave for their summer home in Newport.

Mrs. Dresser was almost ready to leave the house when a telephone message from Dresser's lawyer warned her not to come. Later the news of her husband's suicide was broken to her and she hurried to Manhattan from her mother's home in Brooklyn.

When seen late last night by a reporter Mrs. Walther was greatly agitated and was awaiting the return of her daughter from Manhattan. She could give no reason for her son-in-law's act. She said Dresser had been interested recently in a plan for substituting oil for coal as fuel. When Coroner Feinberg told Mr. Gould last night, several hours after Dresser's death, he told reporters that Mr. Gould had told him it was financial difficulties that drove his friend to commit suicide. Any one who knew Dresser for the last ten years, Mr. Gould was quoted as saying, would not believe that financial affairs were not all that might be decided.

#### Alone in Frat House.

Apparently there was no one in the fraternity house when the fatal shot was fired. The time of the shooting, according to estimates of the coroner and a physician who was called in by Mr. Gould, must have been about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. It was about that time when Waltherbridge told him, a steward at the chapter house, left for a few minutes. Dresser was alone then, reading in the library on the third floor of the house, which is known as St. Anthony's Hall. It is the Columbia University chapter house of which Dresser was a member.

Waltherbridge returned to the house almost simultaneously with Mr. Gould's arrival in a taxicab, in which he had rushed from his home at 114 West Seventy-ninth street. The steward was aware that anything untoward had occurred until Mr. Gould bounded up the steps and demanded to know where Mr. Dresser was. Waltherbridge told him he had last seen him on the third floor in the library, and without further ado Mr. Gould went upstairs. Dresser lay dead on the floor, a .38 calibre revolver in his right hand.

Mr. Gould at once telephoned to Dr. Beckman, 410 Riverside Drive, but Dresser had been dead for some time when the physician reached his side. Coroner Feinberg and his physician, Dr. Weston, came shortly afterward.

Mr. Gould, who had known the once noted financier for many years and was one of his closest friends, took charge of Dresser's affairs and notified the dead man's sisters, Mrs. George W. Vanderbilt of Biltmore, N. C.; Mrs. George G. Merrill of Stockbridge, Mass.; Mrs. John Nicholas Brown of New York and the Countess d'Oremy of Paris.

#### Married Six Months Ago.

The explanation Mr. Gould gave to reporters for his friend's death was "the nervous strain" mentioned in the quiet and hasty letter which Dresser had sent to him by registered mail in the morning. Mr. Gould got it about 10 o'clock in the afternoon at his home. He would not give its full contents, but the gist of it ran:

"DEAR FRIEND: The nervous strain has become so great that I could not stand it any longer."  
According to Mr. Gould, the former financier was about 50 years old.

When he retired from active business six years ago, Dresser lived at Newport. He had married Miss Emma Louise Burnham on November 28, 1909, but she obtained a divorce from him at Sioux Falls, S. D., on August 19, 1910, and was awarded the custody of their two children, Susan Le Roy, now 23 years old, and Daniel Le Roy, now 21. Six months ago he married Mrs. Marcia Walther of Brooklyn at the home of Mr. Gould in Albany. The Rev. Burton Hoisting of the Third Presbyterian Church performed the ceremony, but the wedding was kept quiet until last March.

For the last month the second Mrs. Dresser has been living with her mother, Mrs. Henry Walther, at St. Anthony's house, 131 Woodbine street, Brooklyn, and Dresser had lived at the Delta Psi house. The reason for the separate abodes, as given by Mr. Gould, was that Dresser was furnishing an apartment for himself and his wife in Manhattan. The

Continued on Seventh Page.

## THE SUN TO-DAY CONSISTS OF SEVEN SEC- TIONS, AS FOLLOWS

	Pages.
FIRST—General News.	14
SECOND—Sporting, Automobiles, Kennels.	6
THIRD—Semi-weekly Articles, Foreign, Art, Drama, Books, Quizzes, Chess.	8
FOURTH—Pictorial Magazine and the War Illustrated.	8
FIFTH—Special Feature Magazine and Fashions.	12
SIXTH—News of the Summer Resorts.	8
SEVENTH—Special Features, Real Estate, Gardens, Poultry, Schools, Financial Problems.	8
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## MRS. J. L. LAWRENCE HURLED OFF HORSE

Suffers Concussion of Brain  
and Remains Unconscious  
Up to Midnight.

### MOUNT BOLTS AT JUMP

Mrs. Alice Work Lawrence, wife of John L. Lawrence of Lawrence, L. I., was hurled twenty-five feet yesterday morning as her hunter stumbled into a ditch on the cross-country course of the Rockaway Hunt Club at Hewlett Bay Park, L. I. She struck on her head, suffering concussion of the brain. The accident happened on the morning and up to last midnight Mrs. Lawrence had not regained consciousness.

Mrs. Lawrence had gone in company with her husband, Mr. Lawrence, to the Rockaway Hunt Club at Hewlett Bay Park, L. I. She struck on her head, suffering concussion of the brain. The accident happened on the morning and up to last midnight Mrs. Lawrence had not regained consciousness.

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## BECKER LOSES PLEA; MUST DIE JULY 28

Justice Hughes Refuses Writ  
of Error and Osborne  
Fixes Date.

### NEWS UNNERVES SLAYER

Reaches Him in Death Cell  
by Sing Sing's Under-  
ground Channels.

Charles Becker yesterday lost another of his few remaining chances to escape the death chair, or at least to have another court review of his case. According to despatches from Rangleley, Me., United States Supreme Court Justice Charles E. Hughes refused the personal application of W. Bourke Cockran for a writ of error to the Supreme Court.

Word came from Sing Sing just before midnight that Becker will go to the electric chair on Wednesday, July 28. Two other criminals, Sam Haynes and Carol Dranowitz, will be executed at the same time.

A rumor spread in the prison yesterday afternoon that Becker had dropped dead on hearing of the refusal of Justice Hughes to grant a writ of error on his behalf. Although Warden Osborne intended that Becker be informed to-morrow morning of the day set for his execution, he learned the exact number of his days by the "underground channel," which transmits news of this character faster than it travels by official routes.

Inmates of the death house said that Becker, when he learned the day set for his death, said simply like a man stricken, "Isn't that awful!" The rumor of his falling dead was later proved untrue by inquiry at the Warden's office.

#### Breaks From Custom.

Warden Osborne explained that he had broken from the usual custom in allowing Becker two days of grace. A week is given the warden in which to fix the final date of execution, and the warden usually sets the date for Monday. The week set by Gov. Whitman is that of the 26th.

Becker received no visitors yesterday. Haynes and Dranowitz, who are to die with Becker, have abandoned every hope. Haynes killed Mrs. John Harrison of Patterson, Putnam county, N. Y. Dranowitz was convicted of

completing in a trunk murder on the East Side of New York a few years ago. Becker was sentenced to hang on January 22, 1915, the legal procedure being that the prisoner be given three days to save his client's life or delay the execution, unless of course Gov. Whitman should extend executive clemency.

Becker's attorneys, Mr. Cockran and Mr. Patterson, who are in the performance of their duty, have been unable to secure a writ of error from the Supreme Court. Justice of the State would consider weighty enough to warrant a new trial.

In their present plan the attorneys are to appeal to the Supreme Court. The lower court was upheld and the writ denied on April 19 last, and that ended the legal resources of Becker's attorneys. The proceedings acted as a stay of execution, however, and whereas Becker lost his constitutional right of appeal to a Federal District Judge for a writ of habeas corpus, which he said her husband's lawyers had practically the whole case. If this is denied, as expected, an appeal from the decision to the United States Supreme Court will be made, and the prisoner's body's guess is as good as any one else's about the effect of this move.

The appeal to Justice Hughes was made on June 22, 1915, the legal procedure being that the prisoner be given three days to save his client's life or delay the execution, unless of course Gov. Whitman should extend executive clemency.

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# REJECTION OF GERMAN OFFERS AND FINAL RENEWAL OF THE AMERICAN PROTESTS IS WASHINGTON'S VIEW OF NEXT STEP

## American Newspapers Declare the German Note Unsatisfactory

The General Tenor Is for Moderation, and the Maintenance of Peace So Far as Consistent With the Country's Honor.

### SOME RESENT THE "DICTATION" OF BERLIN

American newspaper comments on the latest German note are subjoined. Berlin's reply is generally held to be unsatisfactory in that it is evasive, though some of the newspapers profess to see concession in it.

One of the principal objections is that the reply assumes to dictate to the United States Government what rights American citizens may have on the seas in the war zone. Some of the newspapers regard this part of the note as insolent.

It is generally pointed out that the character of the note is not such as to justify this country in taking grave steps. The tenor of the comment is distinctly for further pressure upon Germany and for the maintenance of peace with her.

#### NEW YORK.

The World.  
It was hardly to be expected, we suppose, that a nation which blew international law to atoms when it assassinated the Lusitania would fall on occasion to make some plea in self-defense, even though a weak one. Presenting no new argument or excuse except that it was surprised, perhaps appalled, at the suddenness with which that great ship went to the bottom, the German note now in hand is little more than a repetition of the plea, already made, that the vessel was in neutral waters and that the British had violated international law in its assaults upon property at sea. Germany is justified in the perpetration of every crime known to civilization.

To the extent that the note gives assurance that "American ships will not be hindered in the prosecution of legitimate shipping and the lives of American citizens in neutral vessels shall not be placed in jeopardy" there is a distinct advance over anything that has emanated heretofore from the German Foreign Office. The further statement, however, that "the Imperial Government is unable to admit that American citizens can protect an enemy ship through the mere fact of their presence on board" is offensive, and by implication a falsehood.

Whatever may be thought or said of this note, it is always to be remembered that actions speak louder than words. For the present we should say that Germany is to be judged more by its conduct than by its diplomacy. It has not been sinking any American ships of late. It has not been sinking without warning any enemy ships, and it has not been placing its submarines in the performance of their duty. While these conditions obtain, notes like that now under discussion may irritate or exasperate, but they need not necessarily lead to a rupture.

#### The Times.

The German purpose in this latest note is quite unaltered. It could hardly be more frankly avowed. She asks us to suspend the law of nations, the laws of war and of humanity for her benefit. She pleads that she is conducting a war in self-defense and for national existence.

Germany may do all lawful things that are in her power to protect the lives of German subjects and she will to such extent as she can, and in accordance with the law of nations, endeavor to save the lives of her subjects.

That is our position, that the murder of our citizens should be our duty, not by those expressions of sorrow and regret which the fear of God and the love of man make natural, but by the cold-blooded explanation that warning to the Lusitania and opportunity for the escape of her crew and passengers before a torpedo was fired "was not considered."

To be weak and infirm of purpose now would be for us a deplorable blunder. That would invite a continuation of the correspondence with all the perils therein involved. We must renew with the assurance asked for in the preceding notes and we must ask to be informed with reasonable promptness whether it is the intention of Germany to grant or to refuse compliance.

#### The Herald.

Germany's answer does not "disavow" the note specifically complained of by the United States. It contains no suggestion of reparation for the "injuries" which are without measure. Nor does it contain the slightest assurance that the German Government "will take immediate steps to prevent the recurrence of anything so obviously subversive of the principles of warfare."

Germany does not evade the issue. In language the meaning of which is not concealed by diplomatic phrasing it declares that the submarine warfare against commerce is to continue despite the American protest that this cannot be "without disregarding those rules of fairness, reason, justice and humanity which all modern opinion regards as imperative," and despite the solemn warning of the Government of the United States.

#### The Tribune.

We have come, then, to the crisis. There is left only the possibility that

## BERLIN PRESS MUCH PLEASED WITH NOTE

"Morgen Post" Admits American Views on Some Points Are Not Met.

### EXPRESSES A FIRM WILL

German Newspapers All Hold That Submarine Warfare Must Go On.

Berlin, July 10.—The German newspapers are unanimous in their praise of the German reply to the American note, characterizing it as a statesmanlike, moderate, dignified document showing plainly the pacific tendencies of Berlin toward the United States. The *Morgenpost* says:

"The answer in every way is worthy of Germany. It shows the calm of a good conscience, a willingness to lessen the fearfulness of war as far as possible and an upright wish to live in peace with America. But it also expresses a firm will not to surrender to the pressure of the United States or to the title of Germany's rights. The answer clearly shows that the responsibility for the form of submarine warfare rests on the United States."

The *Morgenpost* quoted the American note where it declared that the "Government of the United States cannot admit that the proclamation of a war zone from which neutral ships have been warned to keep away may be made to operate as in any degree an abbreviation of the rights either of American ship masters or of American citizens."

"This was a point on which American and German conceptions were opposed to each other and it must be pointed out that this difference of opinion also was not compromised by the new German note, but that rather it still exists in its essential features."

"Feeling in the United States is changed from what it was at the time of the Lusitania sinking and President Wilson will have to satisfy this new feeling in considering any answer to the present note. That the note will meet unreserved approval at the hands of a large part of Americans is certain."

The *Local Anzeiger* says: "The main point is that there is no surrender of the German standpoint as regards German interests and rights in face of the opinions of neutral powers."

George Bernhard, the political writer of the *Vossische Zeitung*, says: "The German note indicates the unconditional rejection of every foreign attempt to prescribe how far we should go in our struggle against the British war of starvation. We recognize joyfully that the German Government has made an unmistakable declaration of its determination to defend itself against the British war of starvation."

Capt. Persius, the naval expert of the *Tagblatt*, says the note shows that Germany will follow her present course with the greatest determination and will defend herself against the British war of starvation. He expresses the belief that the note offers the basis for a complete understanding with the United States.

The *Tagblatt* expresses dissatisfaction with the concessions regarding new ships under the American flag, saying that Great Britain would be able to use this special manner in order to disguise her ships carrying contraband and thus render the task of submarine commanders more difficult.

The *Berliner Zeitung* finds the note dignified and earnest and expresses the view that it meets all the justifiable desires of the United States.

"Charity Begins at Home." George Bernhard, a political writer of authority, says in the *Vossische Zeitung*:

"The German note indicates the unconditional surrender of every foreign attempt to prescribe how far we should go in our struggle against the British war of starvation. We recognize joyfully that the German Government has made an unmistakable declaration of its determination to defend itself against the British war of starvation."

Capt. Persius, the naval authority of the *Tagblatt*, declares the reply shows the suggestion concerning the number of neutral ships to sail under the American flag. Germany is liberating America from English slavery.

"Charity begins at home, and it is the part of humanity to prevent women and children from being starved and to prevent shipments of munitions to Great Britain, no matter whence they come."

The newspaper itself says editorially that it would have been wise to require Germany to control her harbors of departure and that there should be an American guarantee of no contraband on ships.

## Many U. S. Officials Regard Further Parleys as Against Our Dignity

Opinion in the National Capital Does Not Go So Far as to Suggest a Break in the Diplomatic Relations.

### WATCHING PUBLIC COMMENT FOR A GUIDE

WASHINGTON, July 10.—The most notable feature of the situation created by the new German note is the growing opinion among officials here that the submarine issue will not permit of further diplomatic discussion on the part of this Government.

Such an outcome from the latest correspondence would be further from the intentions of the German Foreign Office; yet many officials here are inclined to the view that the German reply makes it impossible for the United States with dignity to prolong the diplomatic parleys.

[The text of this latest reply and of the earlier exchanges of views between the United States and Germany will be found on page 6.]

Official opinion in Washington does not go so far as to suggest a break in the diplomatic relations. Strong doubt exists now as to whether the country would approve such drastic action, but there is a very apparent disposition here to believe that the United States, after rejecting the German proposals, may feel obliged to content itself with asserting once more and finally the principles upon which it intends to stand and then act in defence of those principles in the event of further attacks upon American life.

Such a course would virtually ignore the demand made by the President for reparation on account of the Lusitania victims, which Germany has failed to give, but many here are inclined to the view that this is a matter which taken alone would not warrant drastic action and which might be settled in the future.

#### Studying Public Opinion.

The White House has already begun to watch closely the barometers of public opinion. Editorial comments from all parts of the United States were obtained by the White House staff. These showed a remarkable unanimity in condemning the German reply. The tone of much of the editorial comment was stronger and more bitter toward Germany than has appeared at any time since the period immediately following the sinking of the Lusitania.

Many of these expressions held that the United States could not continue the discussions with Germany along the lines of the last two months, but nearly all insisted that the President alone should determine the course which this Government is to pursue.

That the President's problem with reference to the submarine issue has been made more difficult than ever by the latest note was the unanimous opinion of authorities here.

It was generally conceded that the reply made by Germany completely failed to respond to the President's demands and that Germany's proposals are unacceptable in the light of the stand taken by this Government. The issue is no longer regarded as one of law, but rather one of policy, and consequently more than ever before the decision now rests almost solely with President Wilson.

#### The President Acts.

The President took steps at once to meet the situation presented by the note. By telephoning to Secretary Tumulty at the White House he arranged to have Secretary Lansing bring the official text of the German communication to Corning. The President's plans after that will depend upon the results of his consideration of the note with Mr. Lansing, but it is expected that he will not be back in Washington to discuss the matter with his Cabinet until the latter part of next week.

It is expected that the official text of the note will not have been received here until late to-night and Mr. Lansing is not inclined to leave until he has made a careful study of it.

Though officials had been prepared by information given Ambassador Gerard and by press reports from Berlin for the proposals contained in the German note, the effect produced by these was not nearly so disappointing as that caused by the receipt of the entire note.

It had been hoped that the complete note would serve to mitigate the unacceptability of the proposals received in advance. Instead it is felt the opposite has been the result; that the whole note has merely served to demonstrate that Germany is not prepared to yield one iota of her position and that she has nothing else to offer the United States.

The only favorable feature of the note, as discussed here, was the marked friendliness of tone. The question asked on all sides is: Besides informing Germany that her reply is unsatisfactory and her suggestions unacceptable, what will the President do about it?

That the President himself had made no hard and fast plan in view of such a reply from Germany seems certain. It is understood that for the present he will study closely expressions of public opinion as they will develop in the next few days.

Wilson's Isolation. It is accepted by experienced officials here that the President is inclined to go no further in the matter than is demanded by the people of the country. The delay of his return to Washington is thought by some to be due to his desire to remain in complete isolation while the country is discovering and expressing its opinions.

From the indications already at hand officials are satisfied there will be no insistent demand upon the President to break off diplomatic relations with Germany as a result of the present status of the situation. While a rupture is recognized as still within the range of possibility should the German commitment another attack upon American lives such an outcome is not regarded as being as much in the public mind as it was six weeks ago. Late in May there was a feeling among officials here that if Germany failed to respond in some measure at least to the President's demands a rupture of diplomatic relations would follow. The belief that such a course is either wise or necessary is not so prevalent here now as then.

Consequently it is felt that the President must find a middle course, one which will keep him from a surrender of the United States' position and at the same time will not involve this Government in a drastic course which the American people may not be prepared to view with favor.

What that course will be no one here has so far been able to predict. The suggestion in this direction is the one already set forth in this dispatch that the President should briefly notify the German Government that he should express great regret that Germany does not see her way to meeting the United States on the principles at issue and then simply state that